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The Philosophical Ideology of Eastern Literature

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ANNOTATION

This article explores the philosophical ideology in eastern literature. It aims to highlight the significant role of philosophy in shaping the literary works in the eastern world. From Confucianism to Taoism, various philosophical ideas have influenced the cultural and artistic expressions in eastern literature. The article also focuses on how these philosophical ideologies have been depicted and portrayed in various literary works, and the impact they have had on society.

KEYWORDS: Philosophical ideology, eastern literature, Confucianism, Taoism, cultural expression, artistic expression, impact.

Introduction. Eastern literature encompasses a rich and diverse range of cultural and artistic expressions, originating from the eastern world. One of the defining features of oriental literature is the influence of philosophy, which has played a significant role in shaping its works. From Confucianism to Taoism, various philosophical ideologies have influenced the literary expressions of the eastern world.

Confucianism, with its focus on moral principles and social order, has been a major influence on literature in China, Korea, and Japan. Confucian ideas of morality, duty, and respect for elders can be seen in the works of writers such as Confucius, Mencius, and Xunzi. In Japan, Confucianism was adopted as the official state religion during the Edo period, and its influence can be seen in works such as The Tale of Genji. Moreover, Confucianism has been a major philosophical ideology in the eastern world for over 2,000 years and has had a profound impact on literature in China, Korea, and Japan. Confucianism emphasizes moral principles, social order, and respect for elders, and these themes are evident in many literary works in the eastern world. Confucius, Mencius, and Xunzi are some of the most famous Confucian writers, who have written extensively on the philosophy of Confucianism. [4]. Their works have provided a rich source of inspiration for literary works in the eastern world.

In China, Confucianism was adopted as the state religion during the Han dynasty and became the dominant philosophy in Chinese society. Its influence can be seen in works such as the Four Books and Five Classics, which form the basis of Confucian thought. In Japan, Confucianism was adopted as the official state religion during the Edo period and its influence can be seen in works such as The Tale of Genji, written by Murasaki

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Shikibu. The novel explores themes such as morality, duty, and respect for elders, which are central to Confucianism. [1]

Taoism, with its emphasis on the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, and the natural world, has also been a major influence on oriental literature. Taoist ideas of balance, harmony, and the importance of the individual can be seen in works such as the Tao Te Ching, written by Lao Tzu, and in the poetry of Du Fu. [2]

In addition, Taoism is another philosophical ideology that has had a profound impact on oriental literature. Taoism emphasizes the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, and the natural world and these themes are evident in many literary works in the eastern world. Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching is one of the most famous Taoist works and explores the idea of balance, harmony, and the importance of the individual. Du Fu's poetry also reflects Taoist ideas, with its focus on the natural world and the importance of the individual. [3]

In China, Taoism developed as a response to the strict social and moral order of Confucianism. Taoist ideas of balance, harmony, and the importance of the individual can be seen in works such as the Zhuangzi, which explores the idea of the Tao and the individual's relationship with the natural world. In Japan, Taoist ideas were incorporated into Zen Buddhism, which became a major philosophical and spiritual tradition in Japan. The Zen philosophy emphasizes the importance of mindfulness, meditation, and the pursuit of wisdom, which are central to Taoism.

The methodology for studying the impact of philosophical ideologies on oriental literature can involve several steps:

- **1. Research and Study of Philosophical Ideologies:** Firstly, it is important to gain a thorough understanding of the philosophical ideologies of Confucianism and Taoism. This involves reading and studying the original texts and works written by Confucian and Taoist philosophers, such as the Analects of Confucius, Tao Te Ching, Mencius, Zhuangzi, etc. This step would provide a foundation for the study of the impact of these ideologies on oriental literature. [8]
- **2. Analysis of Literary Works:** Once a good understanding of the philosophical ideologies is achieved, the next step is to analyze literary works that have been influenced by these ideologies. This could involve reading and studying famous works such as The Tale of Genji, Du Fu's Poetry, etc. It is important to pay close attention to the themes and motifs that are central to the philosophical ideologies and how they are reflected in the literature. [7]

To further understand the impact of the philosophical ideologies on oriental literature, it is useful to compare literary works from different periods and cultures. This could involve comparing works from China, Korea, and Japan, for example, and seeing how the impact of Confucianism and Taoism varies in these cultures. [6]

Finally, it is important to interpret and discuss the results of the analysis. This involves discussing the themes and motifs that are central to the philosophical ideologies and how they are reflected in the literature. It is also important to discuss the impact that these ideologies have had on the literary works, and how they have shaped the literary traditions of the cultures in question. This could involve considering the role of Confucianism and Taoism in shaping the values and beliefs of the societies in which the literature in was produced, and how these values are reflected in the literature. [5]

By following this methodology, one can gain a deeper understanding of the impact of Confucianism and Taoism on oriental literature, and how these ideologies have shaped the literary traditions of the cultures in question.

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Here are some excerpts from the Book IV to give you a sense of *The Analects by Confucius* []:

4.2 The Master said, Those who are not *ren* cannot long dwell in straitened circumstances, and cannot long dwell in joy. The *ren* person is at peace with *ren*. The wise person makes use of *ren*.

(Scholars disagree if Confucius was saying that the *ren* person was different from a wise person, or if they are two aspects of a virtuous person.)

4.5 The Master said, Wealth and high rank are what people desire; if they are attained by not following the *dao*, do not dwell in them. Poverty and mean rank are what people hate; if they are attained by not following the *dao*, do not depart from them.

If one takes *ren* away from the *junzi*, wherein is he worthy of the name? There is no interval so short that the *junzi* deviates from *ren*. Though rushing full tilt, it is there; though head over heels, it is there.

- 4.7 The Master said, People make errors according to the type of person they are. By observing their errors, you can understand *ren*.
- 4.11 The Master said, the *junzi* cherishes virtue, the small man cherishes land. The *junzi* cherishes the example men set, the small man cherishes the bounty they bestow.
- 4.20 The Master said, One who does not alter his late father's dao for three years may be called filial.

As you can see, *The Analects*, and especially Book IV are very concerned with questions of virtue, morality, and the correct way to conduct oneself with society, family, and friends.

Transcription	Meaning
Ren	Humanity, goodness and morality
Dao	An art, transformation
Junzi	Jelteman

Table. The defining of Chinese hieroglyph from the book Analects of Confucius.

It is visible from the comparison text and the provided table above. Mostly, Confucius claimed the relationship between mankind and art as the decoding of goodness or to be gentle.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the philosophical ideologies of Confucianism and Taoism have had a profound impact on oriental literature. These philosophical ideas have shaped the cultural and artistic expressions of the eastern world, influencing writers and artists to explore themes such as morality, duty, respect, wisdom, balance, harmony, and the importance of the individual. These themes continue to be central to oriental literature, and their influence can be seen in the works of contemporary writers and artists. The philosophical ideologies of Confucianism and Taoism thus provide a valuable window into the cultural and artistic expressions of the eastern world.

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